

# VINITA DAILY CHIEFTAIN.

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## CONGRESS WATCHES INTERESTS OF REDS

Senator Owen Advises State Legislature to Protect the Indians—Careless With Fullbloods.

Oklahoma City, Jan. 23.—Hotly resenting that the democratic members of legislature were endeavoring to whitewash the various state departments, now being investigated under various charges, A. McCrory, of Jefferson county, addressed the members today on a point of personal privilege. McCrory held in his hand a copy of the Tulsa World of Wednesday morning's issue, which carried headlines to the effect that the adoption of a resolution, by the house asking the senate to join in appointing a committee to investigate the various state departments at once was an effort to whitewash the investigation.

In an address before the house of representatives today, United States Senator Robert L. Owen, stated that until the state of Oklahoma takes adequate steps to protect the fullblood Indians and minors, the national congress in his opinion will not relinquish control of Indian affairs.

"So long as the state takes no steps to protect the fullblood improvident Indians," he said, "just so long will the United States at large feel that the obligation rests upon itself."

Senator Owen's remarks, while couched very carefully, plainly followed his suggestion that the legislature consider the matter of laws to protect the fullblood Indians in their homesteads, and from clouds upon the same, and to protect the Indian minors from fraud in the handling of their estates under guardianships. Senator Owen visited the house to pay his respects to the members, he said, and to bid them farewell, as he was leaving at night for Washington because of some matters being up of concern to this state. At the expiration of his short address, the house recessed ten minutes while the members gathered around Senator Owen to shake his hand in good bye.

In his remarks, the senator said that he believes there should be some uniform system of taxation which would apply to Indian lands as well as others. Under old treaties, he continued, much Indian land was exempt from taxation. But he did not think it wise for fullblood Indians or anybody else to have large farms of fine land not subject to taxation or utilized for cultivation, and suggested a plan for cultivation, of a part of the allotment as a homestead to be exempt from taxation probably and to be improved, the remainder to be sold if the allottee so desired. It would be much better, he said, that the allottee have a small farm well improved and producing than to have a large area of land unimproved and producing nothing for its owner.

Senator Owen then suggested the idea of a state law to protect fullbloods in such "diminished" and improved allotment or homestead so it could not be clouded in any way, a statute to make it an offense to cloud such "diminished" homestead.

The fullblood Indians, continued Senator Owen, would be glad to have such "diminished" homestead protected and improved for a home. With such a system perfected, congress undoubtedly would be more willing to wind up the Indian affairs and allow the great Indian population of Oklahoma to merge and take its place with the white race, the senator said.

In his reference to Indian minors, Senator Owen mentioned the Mott report and stated that he understood Governor Cruce shortly will submit to the legislature some information on the subject, probably also with suggestions as to changes in the probate statutes so that minors, Indians and others, would be better protected from extravagant guardianships and loss to their estates.

"Otherwise," Senator Owen concluded, "the state might be credited in the national congress as being somewhat careless in the matter of statutes relative to the protection of the affairs of its children."

Bills introduced by Wyand, of Muskogee:

Amending the bank guaranty law as suggested by state bankers.

To abolish the county court at Porum, Muskogee county, Okla.

Work began this morning at tearing out the partitions and enlarging the seating space in the Idylour theatre.

New Division Passenger Agent. Mr. James Edgar Davenport, who has been division passenger agent of the Louisville & Nashville railroad in St. Louis since 1901, has been appointed assistant general passenger agent at St. Louis of the Missouri Pacific-Iron Mountain, effective February 1st.

Mr. Davenport is one of the best known passenger men in the country. He is a native of Salem, Ill., where he began his career as a telegraph operator for the old Ohio & Mississippi railroad, now known as the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern. Later he was agent for that company at Lebanon, Ill., and then came to St. Louis as city passenger and ticket agent for the Cotton Belt. Next he was made district passenger agent for the Clover Leaf, which position he resigned to accept one as traveling passenger agent for the Choctaw Line at Cincinnati. He resigned to become division passenger agent of the Louisville & Nashville at St. Louis.

Mr. Davenport has a large circle of acquaintances both in St. Louis and other sections of the United States and is extremely popular with railroad men and the traveling public.

## JUDGE ROGERS HAS OPPOSITION

Washington, D. C., Jan. 24.—Owing to the fact that the Oklahoma legislature, Senator R. L. Owen, the three congressmen-at-large-elect from Oklahoma and commercial bodies throughout the state have endorsed the candidacy of Judge R. A. Rogers of Oklahoma City for the interiorship berth in President Wilson's cabinet, it is said here that Col. J. W. Zevely of Muskogee, who has all along been prominently mentioned in connection with the interior portfolio, has practically decided to withdraw.

In the event that Col. Zevely does decide to retire, it is thought that Representatives Davenport, Ferris and Carter will join with Senator Owen and the three congressmen-at-large in urging the appointment of Judge Rogers in spite of the fact that the Oklahoma City court records may endanger any chance he may ever have had for succeeding Secretary of the Interior Walter Fisher. Senator Gore has not stated his position in regard to the appointment of Mr. Rogers, who was a classmate of President-elect Wilson at Princeton. Judge Rogers is practically unknown in Oklahoma and it is extremely doubtful if his selection as a member of the cabinet would appeal to the rank and file democrats in the state. Judge Rogers has been conducting a "gum shoe" campaign in Washington for some time and has some powerful influences behind his candidacy, but even so, it is doubtful if even the Oklahoma congressional delegation seriously thinks that he will be named as a member of the president's official family.

If Albert Burleson of Texas, is offered the postmaster generalship or the interior department portfolio, it will preclude the possibility of an Oklahoma man being named in the cabinet.

Representatives Ferris, Davenport and Carter have been avowed Zevely men in the interiorship fight and will stick with him if he remains in the running, otherwise it is expected that they will join with the other members of the Oklahoma delegation in urging the appointment of Judge Rogers.

Beyond the generally accepted opinion that William Jennings Bryan will be offered and will accept the state portfolio, it is not thought here that Governor Wilson has as yet definitely decided upon the make-up of his cabinet.

### TRAIN HIT A RUNAWAY BUGGY.

Boy Killed at Newton, Kans., Because He Could Not Control Horse.

Newton, Kans., Jan. 23.—George and John, 10 and 8 years old, respectively, sons of Fritz Witmer, were run over by a Santa Fe train here this afternoon. One was fatally injured. They were driving a horse they could not control, and which dashed on the track ahead of the engine. Another son was killed near the same place five years ago, while jumping on trains.

The good train facilities bring large crowds of visitors and shoppers up from Adair and Big Cabin each afternoon. They can reach this city at 3:28 and get a return train at six o'clock.

## THE CHILDREN TO SAVE BIRDS

All Pupils Are Asked by Ernest Seton Thompson and John Burroughs to Write Congressmen.

New York, Jan. 24.—John Burroughs and Ernest Thompson Seton, widely known naturalists, issued the following joint appeal today to the school children of America:

"An urgent appeal we make to you in behalf of our native birds, many species of which are in danger of extermination. To you is now given the opportunity to render substantial help toward their preservation. A measure is now before congress, the purpose of which is to place all migratory birds under the protection of the federal government. Such a law is greatly needed. If it is not passed our birds will continue to decrease.

"The destruction of bird life is costing American farmers millions of dollars annually through the constantly increasing devastations of harmful insects upon which the birds feed. But a greater loss their slaughter is bringing to all who love God's great outdoors.

"The measure now before congress is non-partisan and non-political. It should have the hearty indorsement of all nature loving Americans. But it is in danger of being lost in the great mass of legislation now pending in congress.

"We therefore appeal to the school children of America to help in this important matter. We ask you to get your parents, teachers and friends to write or telegraph to the congressman of your district and the two senators of your state, urging immediate action upon the pending bird protection bill. If you will today get two or three such messages written and sent you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have rendered substantial help in this great and good cause. The messages should be sent at once.

"And this appeal is big enough and important enough to extend to all men and women."

Mrs. D. H. Wilson and her mother, Mrs. Hatten of Tulsa, will arrive this evening for a few days visit with Mrs. G. C. Finley. Mrs. Finley will entertain at cards tomorrow afternoon in their honor.

## SPECIAL COUNSEL NOT ALLOWED

Oklahoma House Measure Makes Attorney General Sole Legal Representative.

Oklahoma City, Jan. 23.—The Mitchell bill, which, if it becomes a law, will stop the practice of state departments employing special attorneys, was advanced to enforcement in the house today. It makes the attorney general sole counsel for the state and county attorneys the only legal representatives of counties.

The house adopted a resolution calling upon Attorney General West for a statement why he had not brought suits to collect taxes from the Choctaw Coal and Mining company and the Rock Island Coal and Mining company. A house committee reported favorably on the bill to abolish the office of state printer also upon the proposed "Blue Sky" law modeled after Kansas, and for the continuation of the supreme court commission.

A resolution was introduced in the house asking the governor what disposition was made of the \$15,000 appropriation for defense of the election of officers in the "Grandfather" clause cases. The house killed the Wright bill to assess part of the jury fees as costs against unsuccessful litigants.

Smith of Pottawatomie declared in the house that those who prepared the Harris-Day code attempted to usurp the powers of a legislature and emulated some of the acts of former legislatures. He announced that he will introduce a bill tomorrow to repeal the law by which that code was adopted at the 1911 session.

The senate spent the entire day sparring over the question of confirmation of John Doolin, state fish and game warden, and Ben Riley, secretary of the state election board. No decision was reached.

A bill by Childers of Garfield county substituting electrocution for hanging as the death sentence in capital punishment was favorably reported by the house committee. Bills also were reported favorably allowing the use of the waters of the Arkansas for water power purposes and by Glasco to put the "curb stone broker" out of business and regulate the rate of interest charged by pawn brokers.

### OKLAHOMA GIRL A SUICIDE?

Found Dead With a Revolver by Her Side.

Fort Smith, Ark., Jan. 23.—Mystery surrounds the shooting of Ebby Whitman, 18 years old, of Haworth, Okla., who was found dead in her home today with a bullet through her heart. Suicidal and accidental theories have divided the family. A revolver was found by the girl's side.

### Chelsea vs. Vinita at the Gym. Tonight

The high school basketball teams, both girls and boys will mix things with the girls and boys teams of the Vinita high school on the local court tonight. These teams are among the strongest in the state and the fans may be assured of a fast and interesting contest from both aggregations. The Vinita girls squad will make extra effort to win tonight and have been practicing overtime all week to do so, as they wish to get back in good standing after their defeat of last week and because this rival team was the only one able to compete with them successfully last season.

The Chelsea teams will arrive on the evening trains and the first contest will begin at 8 o'clock. This will give the fans the opportunity to witness the games without being out to a late hour. The girls will play one half of their game and the boys will play their half and then will come the finals. The visitors will be entertained by the Vinita students after the games until their train to return home.

### Miss Wimer Entertains.

The Christian Endeavor Society of the Christian church spent a most enjoyable social hour last evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wimer, with their daughter, Miss Rebecca Wimer as hostess at the affair.

The entertainment was in the form of a party and was given in honor of Messrs. Clyde Thompson and Otto Haskew, who leave soon for school. The young gentlemen mentioned have been two of the society's most faithful members and workers and as an appreciation of the work for the society, the members presented them with tokens of remembrance to take away with them.

The evening was spent in music, games and the light, pleasing conversation that always goes with such happy affairs. Refreshments were served at the close of the evening and every one before leaving warmly expressed their thanks for the good time shown them by their hosts and wished their departing members all the success possible in the new life they are to go into.

## NEW LOAN COMPANY

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## DESERTED BY GIRL HE ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Homer Richards of Muskogee Attempts to Burn Pueblo Jail.

Pueblo, Colo., Jan. 23.—Homer Richards, wanted in Oklahoma for participation in half a dozen bank robberies, including one at Claremore, made two unsuccessful attempts to commit suicide in the city jail this morning. On both occasions Richards set fire to the bed clothing in his cell with a view to burning the building. Each fire was discovered by the jailer and extinguished before much damage had been done.

Richards was chained to the floor of his cell, so he could make no further attempts.

The prisoner recently confessed to the robberies but declares he will never return to Oklahoma for trial. Julia Williams, the young woman found in his company when arrested, has deserted him, adding to the prisoner's discomfiture.

The young woman said she did not care to become involved with Richards when he is placed on trial in Oklahoma. Officers are on their way here for Richards. Richards made his headquarters much of the time in Muskogee, Okla.

### Lynch Negro They Stole From Sheriff

Clarksville, Tex., Jan. 23.—One hundred and fifty persons this afternoon hanged Dick Stanley, a 16-year-old negro boy, near Fulbright, Texas. The negro had been arrested charged with a four-year old girl this morning. Sheriff McChristian had just started with the boy for the jail here when the prisoner was taken away from him.

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